

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 171823  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:RPERITO

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:RPERITO

-----040581 221909Z /44

R 221846Z JUL 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 171823

NODIS

FOR DR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT BEIRUT 3541 ACTION STATE JULY 22.

QUOTE S E C R E T BEIRUT 3541

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, US

SUBJECT: BEGIN VISIT

REF: STATE 170055

1. READ REFTEL TO PRESIDENT SARKIS AND FOREIGN MINISTER  
BOUTROS (WHO HAD ASKED ME TO COME SEE THEM) MORNING JULY 22.  
PRESIDENT'S REACTION WAS THAT NO PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE ON  
BASIC ISSUES OF TERRITORY AND PALESTINIANS. HOW THEN WOULD IT  
BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE CONFERENCE AT GENEVA? HE HAD ENVISIONED  
GENEVA AS CROWNING AN AGREEMENT WHICH HAD BEEN WORKED OUT IN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 171823

PRINCIPLE IN ADVANCE. IF THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT, GENEVA  
WOULD BE WASTE OF TIME. THE IDEA OF DIALOGUE WITHOUT  
FUNDAMENTAL PRIOR UNDERSTANDING HAD BEEN TRIED ALL TOO OFTEN  
IN LEBANON AND DID NOT WORK. DID I STILL THINK A SETTLEMENT  
WAS POSSIBLE?

2. I SAID I HAD IMPRESSION THIS FIRST CONTACT WITH BEGIN WAS

MORE TO ESTABLISH WORKING RELATIONSHIP AND SET STAGE THAN AN ATTEMPT TO DISCUSS DETAILS. DETAILS WOULD BE FOCUS OF SECRETARY'S VISIT, DURING WHICH I GATHERED WE MIGHT HAVE SOME IDEAS OF OUR OWN TO PROPOSE. I STILL THOUGHT A SETTLEMENT WAS POSSIBLE AND WAS STILL WILLING TO GIVE EVEN ODDS. WITHOUT MINIMIZING DIFFICULTIES, I WAS IMPRESSED WITH PRESIDENT'S EVIDENT DETERMINATION TO FIND SOLUTION AND THOUGHT WE COULD COUNT ON HIM TO MAKE MAJOR EFFORT TO THAT END.

3. SARKIS AND BOUTROS BOTH ZEROED-IN ON BEGIN'S STATEMENT THAT ISRAEL WOULD NOT OPPOSE PROPOSAL FOR LEBANESE PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA. BOUTROS EXPRESSED IRRITATION WITH FORMULATION, GIVEN FACT SUCH PARTICIPATION HAD ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED AND OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR INVITATION PRESENTED TO US. PRESIDENT ON OTHER HAND SAID HE DID NOT MIND FORMULATION BECAUSE IT IMPLIED ISRAEL ACCEPTANCE OF LEBANESE CONTENTION THAT THERE NO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE BETWEEN THEM.

4. THEY ALSO NOTED CAREFULLY LANGUAGE IN PARA EIGHT REGARDING LEBANON. PRESIDENT REMARKED THAT PRESS HAD REPORTED BEGIN HAD AGREED TO PROPOSAL BY PRESIDENT CARTER THAT UN FORCES BE DEPLOYED IN SOUTH LEBANON AND ASKED WHETHER WE HAD ANY INFORMATION IN THAT RESPECT. I SAID ALL WE KNEW WAS WHAT HAD BEEN ON RADIO AND IN  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 171823

PRESS. DAYAN HAD, HOWEVER, TOLD AMBASSADOR LEWIS THAT PERHAPS UN FORCE WOULD BE WAY TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM OF SOUTH.

5. COMMENT: DO NOT KNOW WHAT SARKIS AND BOUTROS EXPECTED TO COME OUT OF BEGIN TALKS, BUT THEY CLEARLY NOT VERY ENCOURAGED BY RESULTS. PARKER UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PALESTINIANS, VISITS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, PEACE PLANS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, NEGOTIATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, CAT-A  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:RPERITO  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Message ID:** 25af5b65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS, ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1772015  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PGOV, MOPS, XF, US, IS, (BEGIN, MENACHEM)  
**To:** WHITE HOUSE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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